

9 ATTACHMENT 2 - ADOPTED PLAN AND PROOF OF FORMAL ADOPTION

As stated in section 8.4, the Kaweah River Basin IRWM group has a functionally equivalent plan. This plan is made up of several management documents and agreements between member agencies that have been developed over time into a regional management framework that functionally equates to an IRWM plan. DWR reviewed the elements (management documents and partnering agency agreements) that collectively make-up the Kaweah River Basin IRWM plan and deemed that they were “functionally equivalent” to an IRWM plan. Please review **IRWM Implementation Grant Proposal Appendix E** for a copy of this confirmation from DWR. Therefore, there is no formal adoption date associated with the Kaweah River Basin IRWM plan because the elements of the plan have been in place for some time and were adopted at different times. However, in a separate effort, DWR evaluated the Kaweah River Basin IRWM region, conditionally approved the region, and documented that the region was eligible for IRWM Planning and Implementation grants from Proposition 84. Please review **IRWM Implementation Grant Proposal Appendix F** for a copy of this confirmation from DWR. Therefore, it is concluded by the applicant that for the terms of this proposal, the Kaweah River Basin IRWM Plan was adopted prior to September 30, 2008 and therefore the IRWM Plan was not required to be included in this submittal. If this determination has been made in error, the Kaweah Delta WCD is willing to provide a copy of all the management documents and partnering agency agreements that make-up the Kaweah River Basin IRWM plan at DWR’s request.

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APPENDIX A

**Determination by DWR deeming the Kaweah River Basin IRWM
Plan as “functionally equivalent” and that the Kaweah River
Basin IRWM Region is “conditionally approved” and eligible for
IRWM Planning and Implementation grants**

No. 14 - Kaweah River Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Region

Region Acceptance Process Summary

General Description of Region

The Kaweah River Basin Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Region is comprised of approximately 340,000 acres in the counties of Tulare and Kings. This Region is within the Tulare Lake Hydrologic Unit. This Region is defined primarily by hydrologic boundaries, except the southern boundary which is defined by the Tule River IRWM Region. Kaweah River Basin IRWM Region boundaries follow the watershed boundary formed by in-part by Cottonwood Creek to the north. However, this creates a small overlap with the Upper Kings Water Forum IRWM Region's southern boundary. Also, small islands of non-participation within the proposed Kaweah River Basin Region exist, such as the City of Exeter.

The Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District (KDWCD) has acted as the lead agency in the management of water resources available to the Kaweah River Basin, particularly as they have applied to groundwater resources and flood and storm water control.

Several agencies have executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and include KDWCD, Exeter Irrigation District, and the City of Lindsay. Several petitions also have been recently submitted to join in the MOU, including the City of Visalia, the County of Tulare, the Tulare Irrigation District, the City of Tulare, the Ivanhoe Irrigation District, and the St. Johns Water District. Principal water management activities undertaken by the cooperating agencies within the Kaweah River Basin have joined together with multiple agencies for management of pre-1914 water rights, groundwater management, and development of a formal IRWM Plan. The Kaweah River Basin IRWM Region has a functionally equivalent plan. This IRWM Region has indicated that there is ongoing coordination and cooperation with neighboring IRWM Regions, in particular with the Tule River IRWM Region.

Interview Conclusions- Conditional Approval for SBXX1 Funds

DWR approves the Kaweah River Basin IRWM Region to allow this Region to complete for planning and implementation funding from Senate Bill XX1 (Perata, Stats. 2008, Ch. 1), California Water Code §83000-

83002.7. However, for subsequent funding rounds, the Kaweah River Basin and Tule River IRWM Regions must explore options on how best to structure the regional boundaries in this area. DWR's intent is to facilitate future communication and cooperation between the Kaweah River Basin and Tule River IRWM Regions, to develop a single IRWM Region that fosters integration and cooperation, and does not result in overlapping and competing planning efforts. Nearby "gap" areas, not covered by the Kern County, Poso Creek, Tule River, Kaweah River, or Southern Sierra IRWM Regions should also be considered for inclusion in the IRWM planning effort.

The stated communication and cooperation, region boundary structure, as well as inclusion of "gap" areas, will be considered when determining future region approval and eligibility for subsequent funding rounds.



Announcement

November 30, 2009

DWR Announces Final Recommendations for the Region Acceptance Process

The Director of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has approved the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program Region Acceptance Process (RAP) final recommendations. DWR received 46 RAP proposals. DWR approved 36 regions and conditionally approved 10 regions.

Draft RAP Recommendations were released on September 1, 2009. Three public workshops were held on the draft recommendations (September 8, 2009, Sacramento, September 9, 2009, Los Angeles, and September 10, 2009, Fresno) to solicit public input. Written public comments were accepted until September 22, 2009. DWR received a total of 57 comment letters as well as oral comments during the three workshops. The comments are posted at the following link:

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/integregio_publiccomments.cfm

DWR considered the comments and made changes to the final RAP approval materials. The final RAP recommendations and associated materials (review summaries, individual RAP documents, and maps) are posted on the following DWR IRWM Program website:

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/integregio_rap2.cfm

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APPENDIX B

**Correspondence from Jim Lin encouraging the Kaweah River
Basin IRWM Group to submit the region for consideration under
DWR's Regional Acceptance Process**

From: Lin, Jim [<mailto:jllin@water.ca.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2009 12:17 PM
To: Mark Larsen
Subject: RAP application and interview

Mark,

I believe that your people of Kaweah Delta RWM Implementation Program will submit an application for the RAP (Region Acceptance Process) interview. Please confirm this.

We are making schedule for application reviews and interviews, and that is why I ask your confirmation a bit earlier. It will be OK if you change your mind later. I would encourage your group to submit an application.

Thanks

Jim

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